PENDING CLAIMS

1. A method for detecting copyright violation, said method comprising:

   receiving a selectable data stream of suspected copyright infringing material;

   generating a first electronic signature for said data stream of said suspected copyright infringing material, said first electronic signature being a distillation, of said data stream, that is incapable of reconstructing said data stream by direct decipherment;

   generating a second electronic signature for an original copyright material, said second electronic signature being a distillation, of said original copyright material, that is incapable of reconstructing said original copyright material by direct decipherment; and

   comparing said first electronic signature with said second electronic signature, wherein a match of said first electronic signature with said second electronic signature indicates a likelihood that said suspected copyright infringing material and said original copyright material are the same.

2. The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

   receiving said data stream of suspected copyright infringing material from the Internet.

3. The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

   parsing said data stream of suspected copyright infringing material into suspected copyright infringing material data segments; and

   generating a suspected copyright infringing material data segment electronic signature for each said suspected copyright infringing material data segment, each said suspected copyright infringing material data segment electronic signature being a distillation of a corresponding said suspected copyright infringing material data segment.

4. The method of Claim 3, further comprising:

   parsing said original copyright material into original copyright material data segments; and

   generating an original copyright material data segment electronic signature for each said original copyright material data segment, each said original copyright material data segment

5 electronic signature being a distillation of a corresponding said original copyright material data

6 segment.

1 5. The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

2 determining that said first electronic signature and said second electronic signature are a

3 match; and

4 visually examining said suspected copyright infringing material having said first electronic

5 signature matching said second electronic signature of said original copyright data material.

1 6. The method of Claim 4, further comprising:

2 determining that at least one of said suspected copyright infringing material data segment

3 electronic signatures matches at least one of said original copyright material data segment electronic

4 signatures; and

5 visually examining said suspected copyright infringing material data segment having said

6 suspected copyright infringing material data segment electronic signature matching said original

7 copyright material data segment electronic signature.

1 7. A system for detecting copyright violation, said system comprising:

2 receiving means for receiving a selectable data stream of suspected copyright infringing

3 material;

4 signature generation means for generating a first electronic of said suspected material and

5 a second electronic signature of an original copyright material, each said electronic signature being

6 a distillation of material incapable of reconstructing said suspected material or said original copyright

7 material by direct decipherment; and

8 comparator means for comparing said first electronic signature with said second electronic

9 signature, wherein a match of said first electronic signature with said second electronic signature

10 indicates a likelihood that said suspected copyright infringing material and said original copyright

11 material are the same.

8. The system of Claim 7, further comprising:

means for receiving said data stream of suspected copyright infringing material from the Internet.

9. The system of Claim 7, further comprising:

parsing means for parsing said data stream of suspected copyright infringing material into suspected copyright infringing material data segments; and

means for generating a suspected copyright infringing material data segment electronic signature for each said suspected copyright infringing material data segment, each said suspected copyright infringing material data segment electronic signature being a distillation of a corresponding said suspected copyright infringing material data segment.

10. The system of Claim 9, further comprising:

parsing means for parsing said original copyright material into original copyright material data segments; and

means for generating an original copyright material data segment electronic signature for each said original copyright material data segment, each said original copyright material data segment electronic signature being a distillation of a corresponding said original copyright material data segment.

11. The system of Claim 7, further comprising:

means for determining that said first electronic signature and said second electronic signature are a match; and

means for visually displaying said suspected copyright infringing material having said first electronic signature matching said second electronic signature of said original copyright material.

12. The system of Claim 10, further comprising:

means for determining that at least one of said suspected copyright infringing material data segment electronic signatures matches at least one of said original copyright material data segment

9   electronic signatures; and

10   means for visually examining said suspected copyright infringing material data segment

11   having said suspected copyright infringing material data segment electronic signature matching said

12   original copyright material data segment electronic signature.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

1   18.   A computer program product within a computer readable medium having instructions for

2   detecting copyright violation, said computer program product comprising:

3   instructions within said computer readable medium for receiving a selectable data stream of

4   suspected copyright infringing material;

5   instructions within said computer readable medium for generating a first electronic signature

6   for said data stream of said suspected copyright infringing material, said first electronic signature

7   being a distillation, of said data stream, that is incapable of reconstructing said data stream by direct

8   decipherment;

9   instructions within said computer readable medium for generating a second electronic

10   signature for an original copyright material, said second electronic signature being a distillation, of

11   said original copyright material, that is incapable of reconstructing said original copyright material

12   by direct decipherment; and

13   instructions within said computer readable medium for comparing said first electronic

14   signature with said second electronic signature, wherein a match of said first electronic signature

15 with said second electronic signature indicates a likelihood that said suspected copyright infringing

16 material and said original copyright material are the same.

1 19.   The computer program product of Claim 18, further comprising:

2   instructions within said computer readable medium for receiving said data stream of

3 suspected copyright infringing material from the Internet.

1 20.   The computer program product of Claim 18, further comprising:

2   instructions within said computer readable medium for parsing said data stream of suspected

3 copyright infringing material into suspected copyright infringing material data segments; and

4   instructions within said computer readable medium for generating a suspected copyright

5 infringing material data segment electronic signature for each said suspected copyright infringing

6 material data segment, each said suspected copyright infringing material data segment electronic

7 signature being a distillation of a corresponding said suspected copyright infringing material data

8 segment.

1 21.   The computer program product of Claim 20, further comprising:

2   instructions within said computer readable medium for parsing said original copyright

3 material into original copyright material data segments; and

4   instructions within said computer readable medium for generating an original copyright

5 material data segment electronic signature for each said original copyright material data segment,

6 each said original copyright material data segment electronic signature being a distillation of a

7 corresponding said original copyright material data segment.

1 22.   The computer program product of Claim 18, further comprising:

2   instructions within said computer readable medium for determining that said first electronic

3 signature and said second electronic signature are a match, thus enabling a visual examination of said

4 suspected copyright infringing material.

1   23.   The computer program product of Claim 21, further comprising:

2   instructions within said computer readable medium for determining that at least one of said

3   suspected copyright infringing material data segment electronic signature matches at least one of said

4   original copyright material data segment electronic signature.

1   24.   The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

2   generating said first electronic signature of said suspected copyright infringing material using

3   a feedback shift register.

1   25.   The system of claim 7, further comprising:

2   a shift register for generating said electronic signature for each said data segment of said

3   suspected material.

1   26.   A system for detecting a copyright violation, said system comprising:

2   means for storing a first electronic signature for an original copyright material, said first

3   electronic signature being a distillation of said original copyright material;

4   means for identifying a suspected copyright infringing material that is suspected of being the

5   same as said original copyright material;

6   means for generating a second electronic signature for said suspected copyright infringing

7   material, said second electronic signature being a distillation, of said data stream, that is incapable

8   of reconstructing said data stream by direct decipherment; and

9   means for comparing said first electronic signature with said second electronic signature,

10   wherein a match of said first electronic signature and said second electronic signature indicates a

11   likelihood that said original copyright material and said suspected copyright infringing material are

12   the same, thus indicating a copyright violation.

1   27.   The method of claim 5, wherein said visual examination is performed upon said matches of

2   said signatures exceeding a predetermined number of occurrences.

1   28.   The system of claim 12, wherein said visual examination is performed upon said matches of

2   said signatures exceeding a predetermined number of occurrences.